THE ANIMALS DISEASES BILL.

Mr. Subba Aiyar:—

"In the Bill as originally drafted, Section 8 contained a Proviso to the effect that, in the case of diseased animals taken charge of by the Inspector of the hospital pound, if the owner of the animal desires to supply food and medicines to the animal, they must be such as the Inspector may approve or direct. This Proviso was deleted by the Select Committee. With reference to this, it has to be observed that the popularity of the hospital pound generally depends upon the success of the treatment given by the Inspector himself. If therefore food or medicines supplied to the animal by the owner be such as are not approved by the Inspector, the Inspector will not take any interest in the treatment of the animals committed to his charge, and he may not care whether the animals recover or not. On the other hand, if the food and medicines supplied are according to his recommendations, then, he will feel a certain amount of responsibility in the matter. It is therefore thought, on further consideration, desirable to have the said Proviso in the Bill. I accordingly beg to move that the following Proviso be inserted at the end of Section 8 :—

"Provided always that such food and medicines shall be such as the Inspector of the hospital pound may approve or direct ".

Seconded by Mr. Mahadeva Aiyar.

Mr. Subrahmanya Pillai:—

"This Proviso was in the Bill as originally drafted, and it was deleted by the Select Committee after mature consideration, and the Council accepted the Bill as amended by the Select Committee. I am surprised to see that Mr. Subba Aiyar wants the Proviso to be inserted again, especially at a time when the Government are encouraging the indigenous system of treatment in the case of human beings. As pointed out by me on a former occasion, the ryots have very little faith in the western system of treatment, and I do not think it desirable to compel them to adopt that treatment through the Legislature. This Council itself is not in a position to say for certain that the western form of treatment is the only efficacious form of treatment for animals. I therefore oppose the amendment strongly. If the amendment is to be accepted, my suggestion is that every hospital pound must have two Inspectors, one for the western system of treatment and the other for the Ayurvedic form of treatment in which people have very great faith ".

Mr. Gopala Pillai:—

"It is very unfortunate that the amendment should have come at this very late stage. My learned friend Mr. Subba Aiyar's grounds for the amendment are not convincing enough, especially at this time when there is a growth of the indigenous system of treatment. It is not very necessary to go into the details which persuaded the Government to come to the conclusion that the Proviso is necessary. I humbly submit that I have to enter my emphatic protest against its insertion in the Bill."

Mr. Govinda Menon:—

"I also oppose the amendment, and I have to bring to the notice of the Council that the chief object of the measure is not so much the treatment of cattle as the prevention by segregation of the spread of disease among them ".

Mr. Subba Aiyar's motion was put to the vote and carried.

Mr. Subba Aiyar:—

"I have to propose another modification also in the Bill. In the Bill as originally drafted there was a Section providing for the prohibition of the removal, without license, of animals in contact with deceased animals. This Section was dropped by the Select Committee, as it was thought that the rules to be framed under Clauses (*a*) and (*j*) of the penultimate Section of the Bill would serve the purpose. But as the provision is an important one, it is thought expedient that it should appear in the Regulation itself rather than in the rules. I therefore beg to move that the following be inserted as Section 11, the existing Section 11 and the subsequent Sections being renumbered :—

"No person having, in his possession, or under his custody, any animal which has been in the same shed or stable, or in the same herd or flock, or in contact with any diseased animal, shall remove such animal alive from his land or premises, without the license of the Inspector of the nearest hospital pound, or of some person authorised by the Director of Agriculture and Fisheries to grant such license.

Every such license shall be in writing, and shall only permit the removal of such animal to some place where it can be conveniently kept apart from all other animals, until the Inspector of the hospital pound, or other person authorised as aforesaid is satisfied that there is no reasonable probability of such animal propagating the disease "."

Seconded by Mr. Mahadeva Aiyar.

Messrs. Subrahmanya Pillai and Govinda Menon opposed the motion.

Mr. Subba Aiyar's motion was put to the vote and carried.

Mr. Subba Aiyar then moved that the Bill be finally read and passed.

Seconded by Mr. Raman Pillai.

Carried.

The Council adjourned at 1 P. M.

M. KRISHNAN NAIR,
President.

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